

Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Friday - 19 December 1975

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25X1 [REDACTED] ADMINISTRATIVE DELIVERIES I delivered
copies of the DCT's letter on [REDACTED] to the office of Senator STAT
Humbert Humphrey (D., Minn.); Senator Clifford Case (R., N.J.); Pat Holt,
Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff and Bill Hogan, House Armed
Services Committee. I also delivered letters for Duke Short and David Martin,
staff of Subcommittee on Internal Security, Senate Committee on the Judiciary,
25X1A for [REDACTED] OLC. Delivered records of Agency Briefings of
committees on [REDACTED] to Edward T. Braswell, Chief Counsel
25X1C and Staff Director, Senate Armed Services Committee; Ralph Preston,
Senior Staff Member, House Appropriations Committee; Frank M. Slatinshek,
Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee and Guy G. McConnell,
Clerk, Senate Committee on Appropriations. Picked up the transcript of
Senator Edward M. Kennedy's (D., Mass.) hearing on drug experimentation
from Jim Michie's (Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure,
Senate Committee on the Judiciary), office. I delivered a China Atlas to
Representative Elizabeth Holtzman (D., N.Y.).

25X1 6. [REDACTED] OPS BRIEFING - TRAVEL I accompanied
STAT Theodore G. Shackley, Chief, East Asia Division, to brief Representative
25X1A Dale Milford (D., Tex.) [REDACTED]
25X1C [REDACTED]

25X1 7. [REDACTED] LEGISLATION Called Jim Stimpson, OMB,
and inquired as to the status of their review of our revision of the Agency's
report on S. 2515. He said that it was still under review and that Ann Stone,
who is handling this matter, will call us when it is cleared for forwarding
to the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Subcommittee on Health.

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CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS ANALYSIS SERVICE

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Item No. 8

Ref. No.

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STATSPEC

HA'AREZ DISCUSSES REACTION TO COLBY TESTIMONY

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(BY HA'AREZ U.S. CORRESPONDENT DAN MARGALIT)

(TEXT) SHLOMO GAZIT, THE CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE, WHO IS IN THE UNITED STATES, WAS SENT BY DEFENSE MINISTER SHIM'ON PERES FOR A ROUND OF TALKS IN THE U.S. CONGRESS AFTER U.S. INTELLIGENCE CHIEF WILLIAM COLBY AGAIN SECRETLY TESTIFIED THAT ISRAEL IS MILITARILY STRONGER THAN THE ARABS.

COLBY'S NEW TESTIMONY POSED EVEN MORE DIFFICULTY FOR ISRAEL THAN HIS EARLIER TESTIMONY: IN HIS FIRST TESTIMONY HE CLAIMED THAT ISRAEL IS STRONGER THAN EGYPT AND SYRIA, BUT THIS TIME COLBY SAID THAT IT IS STRONGER EVEN IF JORDANIAN INVOLVEMENT IN A WAR IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, TOGETHER WITH THE ARSENAL OF THE REST OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES, SUCH AS SAUDI ARABIA AND LIBYA.

COLBY REPEATED THE FIGURES HE HAD CITED IN HIS EARLIER TESTIMONY IN REGARD TO PLANES AND TANKS IN THE HANDS OF BOTH SIDES. HE REPEATED THE CLAIM THAT ISRAEL WOULD OVERCOME THE ARABS EASILY. IT IS UNDERSTOOD FROM HIS TESTIMONY THAT THE UNITED STATES DIFFERENTIATES BETWEEN THE DETERRENCE OF THE IOF AND ITS GREAT ABILITY IN WARFARE. COLBY ADDED THAT HE ONLY FURNISHES FACTS AND DOES NOT DEAL WITH POLITICAL CONTROVERSIES. HE THUS HINTED AT CRITICISM OF HIS FORMER TESTIMONY, WHICH CONTRADICTS THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST THAT CONGRESS APPROVE 2.3 BILLION DOLLARS IN AID FOR ISRAEL. THESE FIGURES WERE FURNISHED BY DANIEL INOUYE TO DEFENSE MINISTER PERES IN THEIR MEETING IN CONGRESS, AND PERES INVITED MAJ GEN GAZIT TO REBUT THE DATA OF THE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

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THIS IS WHY A SHARP ARGUMENT IS EXPECTED IN THE SENATE ON THE EXTENT OF MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL. STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS SAY THAT COLBY'S TESTIMONY HARMS ISRAEL'S REQUEST. MINISTER PERES AND AMBASSADOR SIMCHA DINITZ, YOSEF CHAKHNOVER, ZVI RIFAN AND BRIG GEN ARIE BRAUN PARTICIPATED ON WEDNESDAY IN A MEETING WITH SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, WHO VOICED DOUBTS ARISING IN THE WAKE OF DETENTE POLICIES AND ADVISED ISRAEL NOT TO SUBMIT TO PRESSURES. JACKSON TOLD PERES THAT THE USSR HAS DIFFICULT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS THAT IT CANNOT ELIMINATE SOON, AND THE QUESTION IS WHETHER THE UNITED STATES IS EXPLOITING THIS SITUATION FOR ITS OWN BENEFIT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF DETENTE.

PERES SAID IN HIS MEETINGS WITH JEWISH CONGRESSMEN THAT HE DOES NOT SHARE THE IDEA OF NOT NEGOTIATING WITH THE PALESTINIANS. ISRAEL IS READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH PALESTINIAN LEADERS IN THE TERRITORIES (OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL--FBIS) BUT NOT WITH THE PLO.

AT A DINNER PARTY AT THE HOME OF AMBASSADOR DINITZ, DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRETARY WILLIAM CLEMENTS PRAISED FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THEM AT THE TIME OF THE AIRLIFT IN 1973. CLEMENTS IS PLANNING TO VISIT ISRAEL IN FEBRUARY.

PRO-ISRAEL CIRCLES WERE DISAPPOINTED BY COLBY'S SECOND TESTIMONY IN CONGRESS BECAUSE SOME CONTACTS HAD TAKEN PLACE BEFORE, AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT THE CIA DIRECTOR WOULD SOFTEN HIS TESTIMONY AND WOULD BACK THE PROVISION OF MAXIMUM MILITARY AID FOR ISRAEL. COLBY TESTIFIED THAT HE IS AN EXPERT AND HE WOULD NOT RETREAT FROM THE DATA HE FURNISHED.

CONGRESSIONAL CIRCLES SAID THAT SINCE THE RESIGNATION OF JAMES ANGLETON THE CIA IS INCLINED TO REDUCE ITS SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL COMPARED WITH THE PAST.

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